

**Senior Advisory Committee
Tuesday, November 15, 2011
Town Hall, Old Town Road
10:30 a.m.**

Present: Chair Gail Pierce, Dorothy Graham, Janet Merritt, Mimi Leveille, Marguerite Donnelly, Betsy Theve and Betsey DeMaggio. Linda Spak and Sandra Kelly were absent. Deputy Town Clerk Millie McGinnes was present for the recording of minutes.

Gail Pierce called the meeting to order at 10:30 a.m.

Approve Minutes of September 13, 2011 Meeting

Ms. Theve moved to approve the minutes of September 13, 2011. Ms. Graham seconded the motion and it carried.

6 Ayes (Pierce, Merritt, Graham, Theve, DeMaggio, Leveille) 0 Nays
3 Absent (Donnelly, Kelly, Spak)

Ms. Donnelly joined the meeting at 10:33 a.m. after the vote.

Monthly Activities: What 's working and what's not?? Publicity needs.

a. November – Movie trip with lunch

b. December – Newport Mansions

After discussion, the planned trips for November and December were cancelled, as there has been very little interest. It was suggested that energy be put into on-island events and encourage the Recreation Department to offer occasional off-island trips.

Town wide communication/updates to residents, especially during an emergency

Ms. Merritt presented a draft letter to the Town Council, asking them to come up with a mechanism to keep residents informed in the case of an emergency or potential emergency. The letter will be sent to the Council.

Follow up on our committee's name and member information in the local telephone directory

It was noted that at the last meeting Ms. Kelly committed to ensuring the Committee's information was in the next version of the phone book.

Feedback on SCCA visit ...share thank you note from their group

Ms. Leveille noted that the South County Community Action presentation was informative and well attended. It was suggested that the representatives be invited to present again in the spring.

Update on ongoing activities-

Block Island Bulletin Board... ideas for more publicity

Ms. Pierce distributed info. cards regarding joining the Block Island Bulletin Board and posting messages there in. It was noted that there were currently 125 members.

Restaurants with senior discounts

This item was not discussed.

Swimming pool

This item was not discussed.

FISH – Home visit

Ms. Leveille will add FISH to the Block Island Preservation Task Force brochure. Ms. Pierce will act as the FISH coordinator for the time being. Ms. Donnelly suggested promoting a buddy system under FISH, buddying a volunteer with a person in need for a certain period of time.

Soup Group and Lunch Bunch

Soup Group and Lunch Bunch are going strong. Ms. Theve will initiate a group wide thank you card to Kim Gaffett for the piano donated to the Community Center which the soup and lunch groups have enjoyed.

Tax exemption

This item was not discussed.

Senior Moments Pamphlet

Ms. Merritt will work on amending the Senior Moments pamphlet.

Fire prevention~ safety demonstrations?

The BI Volunteer Fire Department Ladies Auxiliary will cook an upcoming Lunch Bunch, at which they will give a fire prevention presentation.

Status of Mental Health Task Force Committee

Ms. Pierce noted that she was no longer interested in sitting on the Mental Health Task Force. It was decided to have no participants from the SAC at this time.

Lights in Interstate's parking lot

Ms. Pierce reported that Interstate Navigation installed a light in their parking lot.

Review Committee's initial charge

The charge was reviewed.

Set up budget goals

This item will be addressed at the next meeting.

Next Meeting – Wednesday, December 14, 2011 at 10:30 a.m.

The Committee decided to schedule the next meeting for Tuesday, December 13, 2011 at 10:15 a.m.

Ms. Leveille made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 11:35 a.m. Ms. Graham seconded with all in favor.

Millie McGinnes
Deputy Town Clerk

Approved: December 13, 2011